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IDEOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

Ideological Purity of Ukrainian Literature Scrutinized: A long unsigned three-column article carried by RADIANSKA UKRAINA on 25 June declares that the Shevchenko Institute of Ukrainian Literature has been slipping from an ideological point of view "for more than one year" (vzhe na odyh rik). The first volume of Kotliarevsky's collected works, particularly the editors' introduction to it, are said to present a distorted picture of the development of Ukrainian literature. Indeed the editors' article is so far out of keeping with "reality" that it could have been written by an enemy bourgeois nationalist. The major sin committed by the Shevchenko Institute, it appears, is its failure to drive home the point that Ukrainian literature has not developed independently but in "closest contact" (naitisnishi zvyazki) with, and under the "influence of progressive Russian social thinking and literature" (vplyv rosiyskoy peredovoy suspilnoy dumky i literatury). The editor's lack of appreciation of the Russian influence is seen also in their references to Kotliarevsky himself: he is pictured as a Ukrainian who was educated in Ukrainian culture. The truth, it is claimed, is that Russian culture was just as dear to his heart as Ukrainian culture, as witness his close and friendly ties with the outstanding Russian writers of his time. The purely Russian national organizations of the early 19th century--the Union of Salvation (Soyuz Spasenia), and the Masonic lodges Love of Truth (Lyubov do istyny) and Union of Prosperity (Soyuz Blagodenstvia)--all claimed him as their member. Of some significance, in this connection, is the paper's concluding unflattering remark that

...Kotliarevsky owed more to the Russian literature of the 18th century than to his predecessors in Ukrainian literature.

Ukrainian version:

...Kotliarevskiy bilshе zobov'yazaniy rosiyskiy literaturi 18-go stolittya, nizh svoim poperednikom v ukrainskiy literaturi.

The Shevchenko Institute of Ukrainian Literature is finally reminded that its aberrations from the prevailing ideological line are not confined to the above-mentioned publications. Crude distortions (grubi perskruchennya) and various shades of bourgeois-nationalist, cosmopolitan and other views are said to be discernible in a number of its other (unnamed) publications. An implicit suggestion that the interpretation of Kotliarevsky's works represents the considered view of the Institute as a whole and not a slip-up on the part of some of its editors is contained in the final passage that not a single voice of criticism against the publication was raised within the Institute.

The Shevchenko State University is guilty of underrating the importance of Stalin's "Marxism and Questions of Linguistics", according to a Kalinovska article of 29 June (not broadcast). The familiar beneficial influence of everything Russian on everything Ukrainian, the author avers, is not only underestimated but often left unmentioned. This was revealed at a recent conference of the University's Party organization where most of the speakers did not even refer to the ideological changes wrought by Stalin's work on linguistics. One of the speakers even admitted that among the numerous dissertations submitted by the faculty and students there is not a single one dealing with the "interrelations between the Russian and Ukrainian languages" (vzaemozvyazok rosiyskoi i ukrainskoi mov).

The Ukrainian people are told in a long article by Slinko (22 June) that in addition to helping their Ukrainian brethren in the last war, the Great Russian guerrillas operating in the Ukraine behind the German lines were almost as numerous as the Ukrainians themselves. Of the 62 nationalities participating in partisan operations, says the author, 55% were Ukrainians and 25% Russians. After the unification of Kovpak's and Fedorov's units, however, more than half of the partisans fighting in the Ukraine were Great Russians. Furthermore, there can be no doubt about the superior talents and achievements of the Great Russians since that definition was made by Stalin himself:

Alive in the memory of the people is the toast made comrade Stalin on 24 May 1945 to the Great Russian nation--the most outstanding of all nations making up the Soviet Union. That toast expresses the sentiment of all the peoples of the USSR including the Ukrainian people.

Ukrainian version:

Glyboko v svidomosti ukrainskogo narodu zhyve zdavytsya, progoloshena tovaryshem Stalinym v den 24 travnya 1945 roku na chest velykogo rosiyskogo narodu -- naivdyat-nishoi natsii z usikh natsiy, yaki vkhodyat do skladu Radyanskogo Soyuzu. Taya zdavytsya vyslovlyue pochuttya vsikh narodiv SRSR i v ikh chysli ukrainskogo narodu.

Familiar charges of "low ideological level" (nyzkiy ideino-teoretychniy riven) in the work of the State University, in political lectures, art and literature are contained in a RYANSKA UKRAINA editorial of 2 July. The Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR is said to be too slow in reorganizing its work "in the light of Stalin's theory on linguistics" (v svitli vchemyia Stalina v pytannakh movoznavstva). The Academy's Institute of Philosophy has not produced a single basic work "on the history of development of socio-philosophical thought in the Ukraine" (po istorii rozvytku suspilno-filosofskoi dumky na Ukraini). Particularly sharp criticism is leveled at the Party Committees of Zhitomir, Stanislav, Chernigov, Kiev and other oblasts for the waning interest in the ideological education of scientists, writers, composers, artists and theatrical workers.

An article by Nepran in the same paper says that "it is regrettable but true" (prykro, ale fakt) that the Ukrainian poets have not produced a single worthwhile poem on the life of the working class since the last war. Insufficiently familiar with "our socialist reality" (nasha sotsialistychna diynist), the Ukrainian writers tend to play up the machine a great deal more than the man behind it.

A Nikolayev dispatch to PRAVDA from Tallin (24 June) says that the Estonian theoretical monthly magazine EESTI BOLSHEVIK, published in Estonian and Russian, is not doing its ideological best. The publication's weakness, it is claimed, is particularly evident in its faulty treatment of the nationality question (natsionalnyi vopros). Recalled in this connection is a Pusep treatise on the bolshevik policy toward nationalist movements in Estonia carried by the magazine in December 1950. In it, the author is said to have made little reference to the Marxist-Leninist background of those movements, whereas he should have known that such motifs are present in every popular movement. Pusep, however, is less to blame for writing that treatise than is EESTI BOLSHEVIK, the organ of Estonia's Central Party Committee, for publishing it. Nor is the Central Committee entirely blameless, according to Nikolayev: "It does not manifest sufficient concern... about raising the magazine's ideological level" (ne proyavlyayet dolzhnoy zaboty... o povysenii ideinogo urovnya zhurnala). There is no mention in Nikolayev's dispatch why an article published in 1950 should be used as evidence in connection with EESTI BOLSHEVIK's present work, or whether this is the first time it has been "exposed."

The lack of contact between the scientists and industry is deplored by KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA of 4 July. The paper says that the Kazakh scientific councils (uchennie sovery) have not seen to the "ideological-political" preparation of the scientific cadres, and the result is a wide gap between them and production. Inadequate ideological education of scientists is seen also in the fact that "impermissible liberalism" has crept into some of their dissertations. KIROVOGRADSKAYA PRAVDA (5 July) says that too many Party Committees and officials pay too little attention to the ideological aspect of their work with the intelligentsia. The point, however, is not amplified beyond the assertion that "there must be a constant and implacable struggle against any manifestation of bourgeois ideology." Kapitanevskiy, Novomirgorodskiy and Vityazevskiy rayons are singled out as ideologically backward.

Criticisms, says MOLOT editorially on 6 July, is being stifled where it is needed most-- at conferences of scientific councils and societies. Some scientists, the paper says, are laboring under the wrong impression that criticism might undermine their authority. The opposite, in fact, is true: continued whitewashing of one another's mistakes is bound to have an adverse effect on their prestige. Cited as a case in point is Prof. Voronov's theory on therapeutics which "contains incorrect and vicious tendencies" and which is nevertheless accepted by Therapeutical Society. Had there been any free criticism allowed within that Society, the paper maintains, such an intolerable situation would not have arisen. The Party organizations of all the scientific research institutes and experimental stations, concludes MOLOT, "must infuse into the scientists an attitude of intolerance toward ideological distortions."

INDUSTRY

Poor Quality Still a Problem: Poor production quality, from the manufacture of shoes to the digging of irrigation canals, on the one hand, and the lack of assortment of consumer and other goods, on the other, provide the gist of central and regional comment on industrial activities. PRAVDA and RADYANSKA UKRAINA of 24 June call attention to the inferior quality and chronic shortage of footwear. RADYANSKA UKRAINA declares that despite the fact that production of cloth-vamp shoes was far ahead of the quota, the quality of that type of footwear is so inferior that there is practically no demand for it. Where the demand is still great, however, as in standard shoes (modelnoe vzuttya), production was 18.2% short of the goal. There is a sufficient evidence to support the belief, the paper continues, that in a number of enterprises of the light, local and woodworking industries "there is no decisive struggle against bunglers" (rishuchoi borotby z brakoboramy ne vedetsya). Some of the so-called innovations the shoe factories are wont to boast about, it is claimed, are merely figments of the management's imagination which often do more harm than good. Such was the case, for example, at the Stanislavskiy shoe factory where it was decided to discontinue the technical control of production.

PRAVDA makes similar disparaging references to the Leningrad shoe factories. The outstanding features of their performance, the paper says, are low quality and lack of variety. One of the tricks adopted by the plant management here is to produce some very good models for display while the shoes made for the consumer are so inferior in quality as to discourage any demand for them. Thus in the "Lenobuv" retail shoe organization alone 3,000,000 rubles' worth of shoes have been lying on the shelves for some time and cannot be disposed of. Picking up the same theme on 1 July, the same paper appeals to the "honesty and integrity" (pravdivost i printsipialnost) of the industrial management with particular emphasis on the Ministry of the Heavy Machine-Building Industry. The latter is said to be guilty of producing "sub-standard and low-quality" (nestandardnaya i nizkokachestvennaya) goods. This has recently been revealed after a spot-check carried out at 18 of its plants. No further details of the findings are offered, however. Lack of criticism is again blamed for all the troubles, and the paper is quite explicit on that point although it mentions no names:

He who is afraid of criticism is a contemptible coward, unworthy of the people's respect.

Russian version:

Tot, kto boitsya kritiki svoey raboty, tot prezrenniy trus, ne dostoiniy uvazhenia so storony naroda.

The paper further inveighs against the "account padding" (pripiska) racket which has been noted in the lumber industry whose production reports are found to contain fictitious products. Such cases have been revealed at the "Tumenles", "Zapsibles" and other industrial lumber camps. Another racket, it is pointed out, is to "minimize the production capacity" (preumenshet proizvodstvennuyu moshch) of a given enterprise. This in turn calls for a reduced production plan which can then be completed without any particular effort. The RSFSR Ministry of the local fuel industry is said to be employing such artifices:

We still have economic leaders who often digress from the right path and stoop to the level of political mediocrities. These are the people who are insincere toward the State...

U nas do sikh por vstrechayutsia khozaistvennie rukovoditeli, kotorie poroyu avrachivayut s pravilnoy dorogi i opuskayutsia do urovnia politicheskikh obyvateley. Eto lyudi, kotorie neiskrenno vedut sebya po otnoshniyu k gosudarstvu...

The quality of consumer goods is also the object of editorial discussion by ZARYA VOSTOKA of 1 July. The Georgian consumer is still getting a raw deal because in the continuing race for high quantitative indices the quality of consumer goods is largely disregarded. The production of defective goods which, according to the paper, is too widespread for consumer comfort "is a crime", and the producers of such substandard stuff "should be punished according to law." Reference is made also to the "harmful liberalism" (vredniy liberalizm) which must be "uprooted" before the consumers demands can even begin to be fulfilled. KRYMSKAYA PRAVDA (4 July) admits that even essential consumer goods are not always available for sale in the oblast trading organizations. Although the Crimean retail

trade network is to be greatly expanded this year by the addition of "many" clothing and footwear stores, the present situation still leaves much to be desired. The traditional lack of interest in the individual consumer is said to be the cause of it all since the shortages of essential goods are caused by faulty distribution, not scarcity.

The chief purpose of the Technical Control Departments is to insure a high standard of quality in production but this, according to SOISIALISTICHESKIY DONBAS (3 July) is not always the case in Stalino oblast. The production of "defective and low-quality goods which cause great harm to the national economy" is still evident in a number of (unnamed) enterprises. A dishonest attitude toward quality production, it is implied, is prevalent at the higher administrative levels where the Technical Control Departments can be bypassed with impunity. It is the duty of the Party and social organizations, therefore, to "severely condemn" the dishonest plant officials and to put greater emphasis on the subject of quality in their political education.

A summarized KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA editorial of 5 July reminds the Kazakh fishing industry that it has failed to meet its production plans "for a period of several years", and the results of the first six months of this year show that it is still in arrears. Lagging behind schedules also is the Ural-Caspian Fishing Trust, the largest Caspian enterprise, which "from month to month does not fulfill its fishing plan."

Anti-U.S. Campaign: The "hate America" campaign has recently become more prominent in broadcasts to home audiences. Although in intensity and emotion-generating references to everything American the present campaign is still a great deal "milder" than the anti-Nazi propaganda during the last war, the gap between them has been narrowing at an alarming pace. This belief is further heightened by the fact that while the anti-Nazi propaganda was conducted during a war which for the most part was fought on Russian soil, the "hate America" drive is being pressed in time of peace against an erstwhile ally. Furthermore, the anti-Nazi propaganda was, as it were, largely abetted by the Germans themselves since the atrocities committed on the Russian people were real, and it took little propagandistic effort to publicize them. American atrocities, on the other hand, including such gems as germ warfare, agricultural pests, prisoner killing and so forth must be manufactured and therefore require more propagandistic ingenuity. It may also be recalled, in this connection, that Soviet radio accounts of the Russo-Japanese fighting toward the end of the last war were confined largely to factual reporting and contained little reference to Japanese atrocities beyond the "normal" prewar flow of material on that theme.

Following are some extracts from commentaries and news items on life in America and on American "behavior" abroad:

Anatoliy Khazanov, 2 July.--Thus United States enterprises introduced machine tools designed to be operated not only with the hands but also with both feet simultaneously. In addition, the workers are compelled to wear a yoke enabling them to operate a longitudinal... with their bodily movements. To speed up the worker's movements, an oil-filled apparatus is placed directly above his head. Should he fail to make the proper movement, the oil pours down on his head. This is only one example of the cruelty and ruthlessness of capitalist exploitation.

Russian version:

Tak, naprimér, na predpriyatiyakh Soedinennikh Shtatov Ameriki vvedeni stanki raschityannye odnovremennno na tolko na rabotu rukami, no i steinami nogami. Krome togo, rabochie vyzhuzhdeni vpriyagatsya v khomut i dvizheniem svoego tulovyalnogo peremashivat prodolnuy... dlia togo zhe, chtoby rabochiy s dostatochnoy intensivnostyu dvigalsya nad samoy ego golovoy raspolzhen apparat dlia stoka masla. I esli rabochiy vo-vremia ne sdelayet nuzhnogo dvizhenia, maslo padet emu na golovu. Eto lish edin iz primerov zhestokosti i bezposhchadnosti kapitalisticheskoy ekspluatatsii.

Grischenko in PRAVDA, 3 July (not broadcast) -- Discussing the recently-published book by Lukyanov and Latov "They Have No Childhood", the author speaks of the 2,500,000 "little slaves" (malenkie raby) in America who are doomed from childhood to a life of hard inhuman labor. Quoted from the mentioned books is the following exhortation to American school teachers:

Always remember...that the students are the material which is being prepared and moulded for battles... Inspectors must closely observe as well as encourage the natural instinct to fight and to kill.

Russian version:

Vsegda pomin...chto obuchayemie yavlyayutsia materialom, podgotovlyayemim i formiruyemim dlia srazheniy...Inspektory dolzhny tshchhatelno i vnimatelno nablyudat, a takzhe pooshchriat' estestvennoye stremlenie srazhatsia i ubivat.'

Anonymous commentary, 4 July--"Open, police!", this arbitrary command, this hammering at the door is not a scene from Hitlerite Germany. It is one of the many raids carried out in the United States by Hoover's Gestapo, the FBI.

US papers carry with increasing frequency pictures of new concentration camps in California, Arizona, Oklahoma and elsewhere. According to the American press, these camps are to house those who dare raise their voices against war.

PRAVDA editorial, 4 July--REFERS to the Americans as "instigators of an inhuman bacteriological war, organizers of monstrous atrocities on Kojé island."
(Russian version: zachinshchiki beschelovechnoi bakteriologicheskoi voiny, organizatory chudovischnikh zlodeyanity na ostrove Kojédo)

KIROVOGRADSKAYA PRAVDA editorial, 5 July-----The man-hating ideology of the American imperialists must be exposed at every opportunity.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Jet Plane a Soviet Invention: The theory of jet propulsion, says an "answers to listeners' questions" broadcast of July 4, was elaborated by scientist Tsiolkovsky. Not only was the first jet engine constructed in the USSR but that type of plane was first flown in that country:

The honor of having developed the first jet aircraft belongs to Soviet technology. We can state proudly that the first flights of jet aircraft took place in our country in 1940 and 1942.